

<https://www.pickhvac.com/central-air-conditioner/best-brands/>

2019 Best Central Air Conditioner Brands

1. Heil
2. Goodman *(Baumer: 10yr parts limited & 1yr labor warranty)*
3. Daikin
4. Bryant/Carrier *(Advanced Air: 1yr all parts & labor)*
5. American Standard/Trane
6. Maytag
7. Mitsubishi
8. York

These 8 brands best combine the traits above. See their scores in each category and total scores in this table.

Brand	Components	Durability	Warranty	Price/Value	Total Score	Max Efficiency
Heil	Excellent	18-22 years	Very Good	Excellent	11	19 SEER
Goodman	Very Good	15-20 years	Excellent	Excellent	10	19 SEER
Daikin	Excellent	18-22 years	Very Good	Very Good	10	23 SEER
Maytag	Excellent	18-22 years	Very Good	Very Good	10	20 SEER
Bryant/Carrier	Excellent	18-22 years	Good	Very Good	9	21 SEER
American Standard/Trane	Excellent	18-22 years	Good	Very Good	9	22 SEER
Mitsubishi	Excellent	18-22 years	Good	Very Good	9	21 SEER
York	Very Good	15-20 years	Very Good	Very Good	8	20 SEER

Brand	Components	Durability	Warranty	Price/Value	Total Score	Max Efficiency
Excellent & 18-22 years = 3 points Very Good & 15-20 years = 2 points Good = 1 point						

#2 Goodman

Components

Warranty

Durability

Price/Value

10

Total

Goodman was known for decades as cheap equipment with great warranties. The low cost and excellent warranty made the brand very popular. However, the brand had a reputation for mechanical failure. Those days are over.

In 2012, Daikin bought Goodman to get into the North American residential market. Quality has improved significantly. Warranties aren't quite as good as they were, but they remain the best in the industry. Goodman is still among the most affordable air conditioner brands.

Components

Goodman also uses many universal parts like Copeland compressors. This includes the Ultratech, perhaps the most popular compressor in heating and air conditioning.

Goodman makes proprietary coils that are good but not great, so the total rating for components is only Very Good and durability might suffer.

Warranty

â€”The compressors in many models have a lifetime warranty. This includes replacement of the entire AC in the first 10 years if the compressor fails. All other parts are covered for 10 years.

Model Options

â€”Daikin streamlined Goodmanâ€™s lineup to 5 air conditioners from 14 to 19 SEER. Single-stage and two-stage models give you a performance choice.

Features include the **new ComfortBridge communicating technology** that can be installed in the split systemâ€™s furnace. It uses algorithms to optimize efficiency and performance. However, before you purchase a communicating technology option from any brand, see [our review of it](#).

Notes: Daikin and Amana central air conditioners are identical to Goodman ACs, but the cost is slightly higher and the warranties arenâ€™t quite as good. Goodman remains the low-cost leader of the group, marketed to homeowners that want value and wonâ€™t pay higher prices regardless of the brand

#5 Carrier/Bryant

Components

Warranty

Durability

Price/Value

9

Total

Carrier is the most recognizable name in air conditioning. The brand and Bryant are owned by United Technologies Corporation (UTC). Most Bryant AC models are identical to Carrier.

Cost is about the same too. That is why we list them together rather than separating them like Heil.

The concern about cost is that Carrier and Bryant have some of the highest price tags in the industry. The quality is excellent, so durability is very reliable. Plus, the brands require installers to be certified. This means that proper installation is more likely.

Components

â€¢ Bryant and Carrier air conditioners are built with the best parts available. Copeland compressors are used in most models. You pay a higher price, and you get a superior product.

Warranty

â€¢ Carrier and Bryant offer a mediocre 10-year parts warranty. There are no AC replacement warranties. You can buy an extended warranty, but [we do not recommend them for these reasons](#).

Model Options

â€¢ Carrier was the first major brand to offer variable-speed air conditioners. That technology has been improved, so Carrier and Bryant variable-capacity models are among the most reliable.

The brands also offer one of the best selections of single-stage and two-stage central air conditioners.

Notes: ICP brands including Heil and Day & Night are very similar to Carrier and Bryant models and cost less. That *potentially* equals better value. We say â€œpotentiallyâ€ for this reason: Carrier requires that their products be installed by factory-trained and certified contractors. The ICP brands are less choosy about who installs their products.

The point is that you might get better installation with Carrier than with the other brands. Proper installation and the quality of the components are the two main factors in central air conditioner durability.